What is claimed is:

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- 1. A photoresist composition comprising a resin binder, a photoactive component and a dye compound that contains anthracene groups.
 - 2. The photoresist of claim 1 wherein the dye is a polymer.
- 3. The photoresist of claim 2 wherein the polymer has a weight average molecular weight of at least about 5000.
 - 4. The photoresist of claim 1 wherein the dye is a copolymer.
- 5. The photoresist of claim 1 wherein the dye is a copolymer that contains anthracene and acrylic units.
- 6. The photoresist of claim 1 wherein the dye comprises a structure of the following Formula I:

wherein each R is independently substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;

W is a bond or substituted or unsubstituted alkylene;

each R¹ may be independently halogen; substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy; substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkylthio; cyano; nitro; amino; hydroxyl;

m is an integer of from 0 (where the anthracyl ring is fully hydrogen-substituted) to 9;

x and y are the mole fractions of the respective units; and each Z is a bridge group between polymer units.

7. The photoresist of claim 1 wherein the dye comprises a structure of the following Formula III:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} CH_3 \\ \hline \\ CH_2 \\ \hline \\ CH_3 \\ \hline \\ CH_2 \\ \hline \\ CH_3 \\ CH_2 \\ \hline \\ CH_3 \\ CH_3 \\ CH_4 \\ CH_5 \\ C$$

- 8. The photoresist of claim 1 wherein the resist is a positive-acting resist.
- 9. The photoresist of claim 1 wherein the resist is a negative-acting resist.

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10. A photoresist that comprises a resin binder, a photoactive component and a polymeric dye that contains one or more polycyclic chromophores.

- 11. The photoresist of claim 10 wherein the chromophores absorb deep UV radiation.
- 12. The photoresist of claim 10 wherein the chromophores are selected from the group consisting of phenanthyl, acridine, quinolinyl and ring-substituted quinolinyl.
 - 13. The photoresist of claim 10 wherein the dye is a copolymer.
 - 14. The photoresist of claim 10 wherein the dye is an acrylic copolymer.
- 15. The photoresist of claim 10 wherein the dye comprises a structure of the following Formula II:

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
\hline
 & Z \\
\hline
 & C=O \\
\hline
 & O \\
\hline
 & Q \\
 & Q \\
\hline
 & Q \\
 & Q \\
\hline
 &$$

wherein each R² is independently substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;

W' is a bond or substituted or unsubstituted alkylene;

G is a carbon, nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur;

each R³ may be independently halogen; substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy; substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkynyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkylthio; cyano; nitro; amino; hydroxyl;

m is an integer of from 0 to 7.

x' and y' are mole fractions of the respective units; and each Z is a bridge group between polymer units.

16. A method for forming a photoresist relief image comprising:
applying a coating layer of a photoresist of claim 1 on a substrate; and
exposing and developing the photoresist coating layer on the substrate to yield a
relief image.

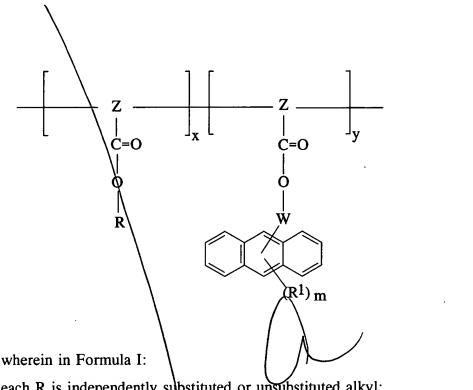
17. A method for forming a photoresist relief image comprising: applying a coating layer of a photoresist of claim 10 on a substrate; and exposing and developing the photoresist coating layer on the substrate to yield a relief image.

18. An article of manufacture having coated thereon the photoresist composition of claim 1.

- 19. The article of claim 18 wherein the substrate is a microelectronic wafer or a flat panel display substrate.
- 20. An article of manufacture having coated thereon the photoresist composition of claim &
 - 21. A polymer comprising a structure of the following Formula I or II:

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each R is independently substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;

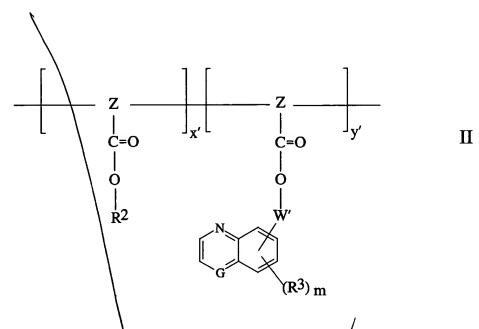
W is a bond or substituted or unsubstituted alkylene;

each R¹ may be independently halogen; substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy; substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkynyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkylthio; cyano; nitro; amino; hydroxyl;

m is an integer of from 0 (where the anthracyl ring is fully hydrogen-substituted) to

9;

x and y are the mole fractions of the respective units; and each Z is a bridge group between polymer units; and



wherein in Formula II:

each R² is independently substituted or unsubstituted alkyl;

W' is a bond or substituted or unsubstituted alkylene;

G is a carbon, nitrogen oxygen or sulfar;

each R³ may be independently halogen; substituted or unsubstituted alkyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy; substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkynyl; substituted or unsubstituted alkylthio; cyano; nitro; amino; hydroxyl;

n is an integer of from 0 to ∇ .

x' and y' are mole fractions of the respective units; and each Z is a bridge group between polymer units.

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